

CLAIMS

1. An effervescent granule for use in particulate detergent compositions which comprises an acid source, 5 a carbonate source and solid surfactant particles.
2. An effervescent granule as claimed in claim 1, wherein the surfactant has a melting point of at least 30°C, preferably at least 40°C, more preferably at least 10 50°C.
3. An effervescent granule as claimed in claim 1 or 15 claim 2, wherein the surfactant is an anionic surfactant.
4. An effervescent granule as claimed in claim 1, wherein the granule is substantially free of alkyl benzene sulphonate surfactants.
- 20 5. An effervescent granule as claimed in claim 1, wherein the surfactant is an alkyl sulphate type surfactant.
6. An effervescent granule as claimed in claim 5, wherein 25 the alkyl sulphate surfactant is a C₈-C₁₅ primary alkyl sulphate.
7. An effervescent granule as claimed in claim 6, wherein the alkyl sulphate surfactant is a C₁₀-C₁₄ primary alkyl sulphate.

8. An effervescent granule as claimed in claim 1, which comprises from 20 to 80 wt%, preferably from 30 to 60 wt%, more preferably from 40 to 50 wt% of the carbonate source.

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9. An effervescent granule as claimed in claim 1, which comprises from 10 wt% to 60 wt%, preferably from 20 wt% to 50 wt%, more preferably from 30 wt% to 40 wt% of the acid source.

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10. An effervescent granule as claimed in claim 1, wherein the carbonate and the acid source make up at from 50 to 100 wt%, preferably from 60 to 99 wt%, more preferably from 70 to 95 wt%, most preferably from 80 to 90 wt% of the granule.

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11. An effervescent granule as claimed in claim 1, which comprises from 1 to 15 wt%, preferably from 2 to 10 wt%, more preferably from 3 to 8 wt% of the solid surfactant particle or particles.

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12. An effervescent granule as claimed in claim 1, wherein the surfactant has a d_{50} particle size of greater than 100 micrometres.

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13. An effervescent granule as claimed in claim 11, wherein the surfactant has a d_{50} particle size of from 150 to 800 micrometres.

14. An effervescent granule as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ratio of the particle size of the effervescent granule to the d_{50} particle size of the surfactant is greater than 5:1, preferably from 6:1 to 1000:1.

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15. A laundry detergent composition which comprises from 0.1 to less than 10 wt% of an effervescent granule as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 14.

10 16. A detergent composition as claimed in claim 15, which comprises from 0.5 to less than 4 wt%, preferably from 0.5 to less than 2 wt%, of the effervescent granule.